



CELEBRATING
OUR CENTENARY



ENGINEERS
AUSTRALIA

Hall of Fame Inductees

Engineering Heritage Queensland

Sir James FOOTS AO

1916 - 2010

INDUCTED IN 2012

Sir James, an active member of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy for 70 years, had strong engineering skills and intuitive problem-solving nous, coupled with financial strengths.

Thus, Jim Foots, employed by MIM Holdings Limited from 1955, became Chair and CEO of the company in 1970, and was an excellent leader for the expanding mines.

He led the development of Mt Isa's parallel lead-zinc-silver and copper ore bodies into a world-class operation, diversifying into coal, gold and iron ore.

He managed a period of product diversification over an extensive geographic range with widespread international mining, processing, marketing, trading interests and investments. He retired as Director and Deputy Chair in 1987.

He played an integral part in the Mount Isa community for three decades and used his influence to benefit the whole city, bonding the mine and non-mine communities.

As a member of the University of Queensland senate from 1970 to 1992, and Chancellor from 1985, he was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Engineering. He helped establish UQ's Julius Kruttschnitt Mineral Research Centre, the UQ Foundation and Uniquest.

He was awarded his Knight Bachelor in 1975 and the Federal Republic of Germany Commander's Cross of the Order of Merit in 1986. He was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia in 1992, made a Life Member of the Australian Mining Hall of Fame and awarded a Centenary Medal in 2001.

He was inducted into the Australian Prospectors and Miners Hall of Fame in 2003 and was awarded the Civilian Service Medal 1939-1945 in 2004.

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